TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE · · FOREST SERVICE

No. 452

Lake States Timber Growth Increasing

Among the more favorable aspects of the forest situation in the Lake States Region, as portrayed in preliminary reports of the U. S. Forest Service Timber Resource Review, is the substantial volume of current growth[1/]. Estimated growth as of 1953 is notably higher than for 1936 (Table 1; for details see reverse side of sheet).

Table 1.--Estimated current annual growth of sawtimber and of all growing stock (sawtimber plus cordwood) in the Lake States Region 1936 and 1953 [1/]

Species group	1936	1953
Sawtimber in millions of board feet (Int. 1/4")		
Softwood	451	802
Hardwood	1,019	1,891
All species	1,470	2,693
All growing stock in millions of cubic feet		
Softwood	190	319
Hardwood	623	861
All species	813	1,180

1/ The 1936 figures are adjusted from original estimates to conform as closely as possible with the standards of measurement employed in 1953.

Men who have prepared these growth estimates point out that the quantity and quality of growth in this region still leaves much to be desired. The growth of softwoods, for example, is only a small fraction of that which the land is capable of producing. The present growth is mostly on small trees and produces relatively little of the large high-grade timber. Nevertheless, the fact that growth is increasing from year to year is a definitely encouraging feature.

1/ Current growth estimates were compiled by the forest survey staff of the Lake States Forest Experiment Station as of January 1953. They incorporate insofar as available the results of recent forest surveys (complete for Minnesota; fractional for Wisconsin and Michigan); otherwise, they were revisions of earlier studies.

APRIL 1956

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Estimated Current Annual Growth in the Lake States - 1953

Sawtimber in thousands of board feet (Int. 1/4")

Species	Lake States	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Michigan
White and red pine	225,100	67,400	72,200	85,500
Jack pine	192,400	83,900	55,800	52,700
Spruce	100,700	57,600	5,500	37,600
Balsam fir	147,400	78,200	18,300	50,900
Hemlock	37,700	-	17,100	20,600
Tamarack	36,800	22,300	8,800	5,700
Cedar	62,300	19,300	9,000	34,000
All softwoods	802,400	328,700	186,700	287,000
Sugar maple	124,300	9,500	36,700	78,100
Yellow birch	23,500	1,200	8,000	14,300
Beech	10,600	-	800	9,800
Basswood	114,400	41,700	41,200	31,500
Oaks	439,500	96,800	215,400	127,300
Elm	189,600	47,100	48,500	94,000
Poplar	656,100	191,900	263,700	200,500
Paper birch	69,200	23,700	13,600	31,900
Soft maple	115,000	800	39,900	74,300
Misc. hardwoods	148,400	46,700	40,000	61,700
All hardwoods	1,890,600	459,400	707,800	723,400
All species	2,693,000	788,100	894,500	1,010,400

All growing stock in thousands of cubic feet

White and red pine	55,000	15,100	18,600	21,300
Jack pine	83,600	15,100	20,100	48,400
Spruce	49,900	27,700	5,300	16,900
Balsam fir	71,500	37,700	10,000	23,800
Hemlock	10,400	-	4,300	6,100
Tamarack	19,900	13,300	2,400	4,200
Cedar	28,300	8,700	5,300	14,300
All softwoods	318,600	117,600	66,000	135,000
Sugar maple	63,000	5,900	18,200	38,900
Yellow birch	8,300	300	2,800	5,200
Beech	5,800	-	200	5,600
Basswood	34,400	13,200	14,500	6,700
Oaks	147,600	28,600	78,300	40,700
Elm	53,500	11,700	12,300	29,500
Poplar	362,900	159,500	117,700	85,700
Paper birch	40,300	24,700	7,700	7,900
Soft maple	67,800	1,300	21,400	45,100
Misc. hardwoods	77,800	21,800	23,300	32,700
All hardwoods	861,400	267,000	296,400	298,000
All species	1,180,000	384,600	362,400	433,000